

three weeks, as they are liable to get tired of eating over the same ground for a long time, enjoy a fresh pasture, and make greater improvement, even though the food supply may be no greater. This is especially true of sheep, but applies in the case of nearly all classes of stock.

BACON SWINE SALES IN EASTERN ONTARIO.

The following is a complete report of the auction sales of pure-bred bacon swine held in Eastern Ontario under the management of the Packers' Committee of the Montreal Produce Merchants' Association, with the co-operation of the Ontario Department of Agriculture. Sales are being held at ten different points. At the ten sales named below there were sold 252 pigs, the average price being \$18.60. These consisted of 108 boars and 144 sows, most of which were in pig.

Brockville, April 15th—	
9 boars sold; average price	\$ 14 00
10 sows sold; average price	18 80
Total number sold 19; average price.....	
\$ 16 53	
Morrisburg, April 16th—	
18 boars sold; average price	\$ 13 91
19 sows sold; average price	28 37
Total number sold 37; average price.....	
\$ 21 34	
Cornwall, April 17th—	
10 boars sold; average price	\$ 8 38
7 sows sold; average price	21 25
Total number sold 17; average price.....	
\$ 13 67	
Lancaster, April 18th—	
11 boars sold; average price	\$ 9 07
7 sows sold; average price	18 86
Total number sold 18; average price.....	
\$ 12 88	
Alexandria, April 19th—	
11 boars sold; average price	\$ 8 68
9 sows sold; average price	22 30
Total number sold 20; average price.....	
\$ 14 81	
Vars, April 20th—	
11 boars sold; average price	\$ 9 45
15 sows sold; average price	17 87
Total number sold 26; average price.....	
\$ 14 30	
Perth, April 24th—	
11 boars sold; average price	\$ 13 45
18 sows sold; average price	25 50
Total number sold 29; average price.....	
\$ 20 93	
Kemptville, April 25th—	
9 boars sold; average price	\$ 13 50
17 sows sold; average price	23 35
Total number sold 26; average price.....	
\$ 19 94	
Winchester, April 26th—	
10 boars sold; average price.....	\$ 15 60
20 sows sold; average price	29 51
Total number sold 30; average price.....	
\$ 24 87	
Finch, April 27th—	
8 boars sold; average price	\$ 11 20
22 sows sold; average price	22 30
Total number sold 30; average price.....	
\$ 19 34	
TOTALS.	
108 boars sold; average price	\$ 11 80
144 sows sold; average price	23 70
Total number sold 252; average price.....	
\$ 18 60	

ALTERNATE OESTRUM THEORY DISCREDITED.

Editor "The Farmer's Advocate":

Anent your article in recent issue regarding determination of sex as depending upon the particular oestrus in which the cow is bred, I may state that, some nine years ago, when I was in charge of the herd of cattle on the Provincial Government Farm, Truro, I put this theory to the test. Just before that time an article appeared in one of the agricultural papers advocating this idea, that the sex of possible calves changes regularly every time the cow is in season. The theory looked plausible, and, as it was a comparatively easy matter to keep records along this line, I did so. The facts were that sometimes the sex of the calf was as expected; other times it was not. There was absolutely no regularity. A much more regular occurrence was that some individual cows were fairly persistent breeders of bull calves and other individuals of heifer calves. Facts more or less along the same line were observable in regard to the progeny of some bulls.

This theory of alternation of sex in successive periods of oestrus implies that the sex of progeny depends entirely upon the female, and if correct would set aside the prevalent idea that some sires produce more calves of one sex than the other. Moreover, it

is scarcely in conformity with occurrences under a state of nature, for, under natural conditions, females are bred at the first oestrus, and a large proportion produce calves to this service. Yet, under these conditions, the proportion of males and females is practically equal. There is evidently a deeper, though, as yet, undiscovered law according to which there is such an equality of numbers of males and females.

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IRELAND'S GREAT CATTLE SHOW.

From Tuesday, the 16th, to Friday, 19th April, Ballsbridge was the Mecca of Irish farmers, during the great annual Spring Show of the Royal Dublin Society. Big things were on all hands expected of this carnival, and anticipations were not in the slightest degree disappointed. It is the great outstanding event in the calendar of the Irish breeder; in the eyes of our Cross-Channel compeers, too, it has of recent years assumed an ever-increasing attractiveness; hence it is an event of international importance. This time, as usual, a formidable contingent of Cross-Channel Shorthorns, Aberdeen-Angus, Herefords, etc., were on the scene. Including as they did several of the leading show animals from long-founded herds, they figured prominently in the prize-list, but to the credit of our Irish breeders—many of whom are, comparatively speaking, but newly established in the business—a number of the visiting exhibits were obliged to return bearing but minor awards.

A great show, such as that under review, enables us

Malahide, the Kerries and Dexters, and Mr. P. Clune the pigs.

A summary of the entries representing the different breeds is not without interest:

Shorthorns	in 10 classes	totalled	633 entries.
Aberdeen-Angus	8	"	148 "
Herefords	7	"	96 "
Jerseys	6	"	51 "
Dexters	6	"	43 "
Kerries	6	"	42 "
Ayrshires	3	"	12 "
Red Polls	3	"	6 "

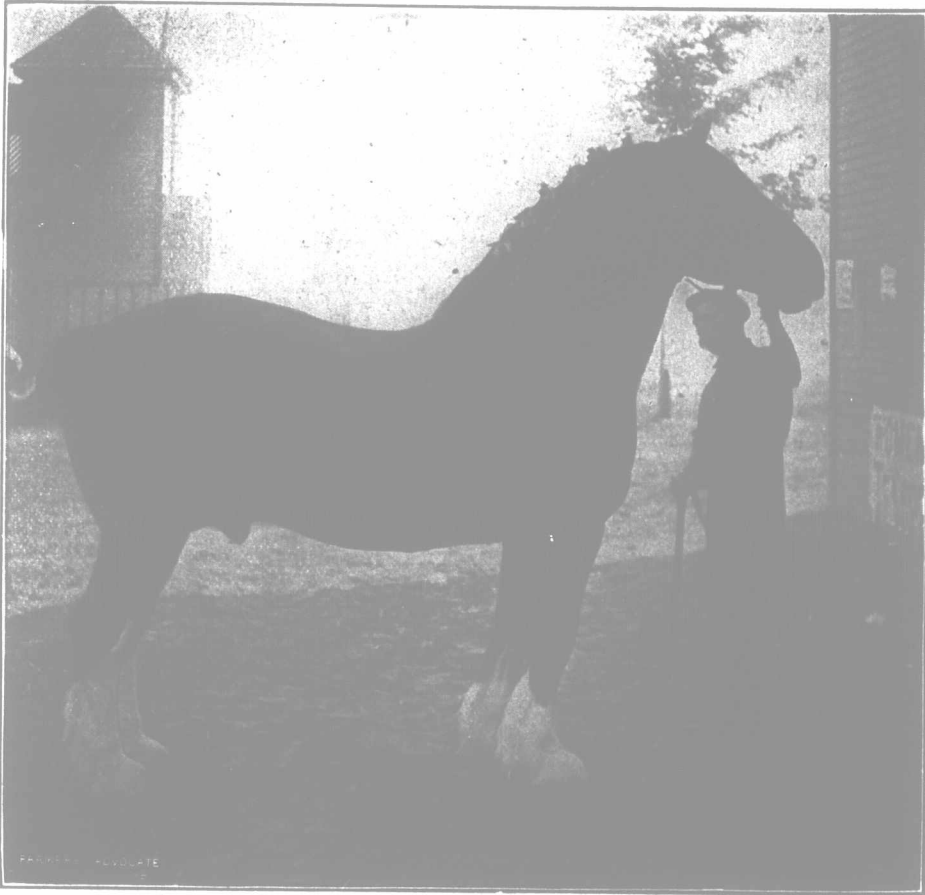
Of the 633 Shorthorns, no fewer than over 280 turned out in the yearling bull classes; 180 in the two-year-old classes, and over 40 in the aged bull class. The last-named contained, perhaps, the finest collection of aged sires that has ever been seen at Ballsbridge, and from its ranks was chosen the winner of the Chaloner Plate—the coveted token of championship. The distinguished animal is not a stranger to those who read "The Farmer's Advocate" of about this time twelve months ago, as he is the very same bull that took the trophy then. Linksfield Champion, his name will be remembered, is now owned by Mr. F. Miller, of Birkenhead, though he figured last year at Dublin in the name of Miss Staples, from whom he was purchased. He was not sent abroad as had been intended, and he revisited the scene of his former triumph at Ballsbridge to secure fresh lustre. Since we saw him last he has increased in massiveness, and for his wonderful scale he is remarkably level and correct in

his lines. A superb top line, even as a billiard table, grandly-sprung rib, magnificent head and horn, great impressive frontage and the choicest quality all through are the most striking features of this now noted sire, which was, it may be recalled, the reserve champion at last season's English Royal. The runner up for the Dublin championship was a rare stamp of a two-year-old, in Mr. D. McLennan's Shenley Victor, from Herts, England. A red of remarkable substance this is, and of grand type and character all over. He came into the possession of his present exhibitor at the recent Birmingham sale, at the huge price of 1,000 gs., his breeder having been Mr. C. F. Rapael. The champion of the yearling class was fittingly enough awarded to a white son of Linksfield Champion, named Dunmore Sirdar, exhibited by Miss Staples, and a youngster that carried a very true reproduction of his great sire's fine outline and breed character.

Other successful exhibitors of bulls in this most important section included Messrs. I. Hanley, Milnethorpe; Geo. Harrison, Darlington; W. R. Crawford, Tullyhogue; Joseph Bowden, Cootehill; C. F. Raphael, Herts; Geo. Dickson, Newtownards; H. J. C. Toler Aylward, Kilkenny; J. A. Gibson, Craigavad; the Earl of Caledon; Sir H. H. Smiley, Bt., Larne; Sir A. C. Stepney, Bt., Llanelli; R. Taylor, Pitlivié, Carnoustie, N.B., etc., etc. Of Shorthorn females there was a very nice display, particularly in the two-year-old heifer class, where Mr. R. Taylor's Pitlivié Rosebud, the first-prize winner, was as beautiful an animal as any Shorthorn enthusiast could desire. Sir H. H. Smiley's exhibits were also of very choice description. The other principal honors were secured by Viscount de Vesci, Co. Kilkenny, who won the challenge cup for the best pair of yearlings; Geo. Harrison and Sir A. Coote. This brief summary must suffice for the Shorthorns, as the other breeds have to be touched upon.

Never has a finer display been made by the Herefords, some choice bulls and females coming forward from both sides of the Channel. Our Irish exhibitors held their own very creditably, though Sir J. R. G. Cotterell, Bt., from Hereford, and Mr. P. Coats, from the same English shire, made a number of notable wins. On the other hand, however, our Col. Everard, Co. Meath; Major Hillas, Co. Sligo; Major W. J. Hamilton, Co. Cavan, and the representatives of the late Mr. E. T. Dames-Longworth, kept the bulk of the honors on this side of the channel.

Among the Aberdeen-Angus the cross-channel invasion was not very formidable, and Irish breeders came to the front all through, except in a couple of the



Prince Romeo (imp.) (8144).

A nineteen-year-old son of Prince of Wales (673). Owned by Messrs. Ed. Charlton, Duncrief, and James Henderson, Belton, Ont.

by a simple process of comparison to estimate the advance that is taking place in our pedigree herds. This year the displays marked a further distinct improvement. As was pointed out by the Hon. F. Wrench at a meeting of Irish Shorthorn breeders during the week, herd-owners in Great Britain have a far better market than we in Ireland. Foreign buyers who visit the Kingdom are inclined to content themselves with an inspection of the English and Scotch herds, and are often deterred from coming as far as Ireland, by the fact that there is a further sea to cross; consequently, if we wish to reach out for a larger share of the export trade we must show to all the world that there is within our shores something worth inspecting and buying.

Beautiful weather favored the event, as befitted its international scope; breeders supported it with record entries of the most choicely-bred animals; crowds of visitors passed through the turnstiles; and implement makers and other manufacturers who cater for the requirements of farmers, contributed a great variety of instructive and interesting displays.

To apportion the liberal prizes offered, some of the best-known breed experts were secured. Thus in Shorthorns we find such familiar names as Messrs. J. Deane-Willis, of Bapton Manor; James Durno, of Westertown; C. W. Lyster-Kaye, of Osherton; R. W. Hobbs, of Kelmiscott; and John Ross, of Meikle Tarrel. Messrs. J. W. Smith, of Thinghill Court, and A. P. Turner, of Penbridge, judged the Herefords; Messrs. Geo. Cran, of Morlich, and Archie Whyte, of Inverquhar, the Aberdeen-Angus; Mr. Ernest Matthews the Channel Island cattle; Mr. R. T. Robertson, of La Maucha